

Department of Public Safety
FY2009 Operating and Capital Budget – Summary

FY2009 Authorized	General Fund	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total	Full-Time Positions
Operating	\$119,065,000	\$15,257,600	\$23,135,900	\$157,458,500	844
Capital	\$29,377,000	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$34,377,000	0
Total	\$148,442,000	\$20,257,600	\$23,135,900	\$191,835,500	844

Overall, the operating budget for Department of Public Safety increased \$10.1 million from last year.

Funding for Alaska State Troopers and Alaska Wildlife Troopers

Governor Palin requested \$1.1 million for five new troopers and \$3.5 million for funding existing trooper positions, vehicles, training, and associated costs for a total of \$4.6 million. The legislature funded \$2.3 million of that amount.

PSEA Contract Increased

The recently concluded contract negotiations with the Public Safety Employee Association results in a 5 percent salary increase beginning July 1, 2008; a 3 percent increase effective July 1, 2009; and a 3 percent increase effective July 1, 2010. The approved contract also provides incentives for Alaska Police Standards Council Certificates, premium pay for department pilots and Special Emergency Response Team members, health benefits increases from \$851 to \$868, and rural relocation extension incentives.

Trooper Positions

There are 395 budgeted trooper positions including AST and AWT. As of June 30 there were 56 vacant positions. There is a critical need to fill these positions and the department is working diligently to fill these positions.

Savings Target

Governor Palin set a savings target of \$20 million for the FY2009 operating budget for all state agencies. Public Safety's savings target is \$2.3 million.

The Governor's expectation is that all departments will be fiscally responsible. She directed agencies to look for savings in FY2009 by finding efficiencies and implementing changes in business processes and practices that could ultimately result in some savings.

We have NOT asked agencies to cut services or positions. There was no intent to make agencies take drastic steps to achieve their targets that would hurt the mission of the department.

The Governor's request for the Capital Budget was approved by the legislature with one exception. The Governor had proposed \$100 million in GO Bonds to fund construction of a new state crime lab. The Legislature funded \$12 million for design and site preparation.